UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1994/50/Add.2
22 July 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1994
New York, 27 June-29 July 1994
Agenda item 7

REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

Addendum

Programme budget implications of draft resolution II, contained in chapter I, section A, of the report of the Secretary-General

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. At its seventeenth session held from 29 to 31 May 1994, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) adopted its draft resolution II (resolution 197 (XVII)), entitled "Permanent headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia". During its consideration of the resolution, the Commission had before it a report of the Executive-Secretary of the Commission 1/ on the subject.

2. Under the terms of the resolution, the Economic and Social Council would:

(a) Decide, having considered and subsequently accepted the offer of the Government of Lebanon, to recommend that the permanent headquarters of the Commission be relocated to Beirut (operative para. 4);

(b) Request the Secretary-General:

(i) To approach the Government of Lebanon, as soon as the appropriate legal action has been taken by the United Nations with regard to operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, in order to arrive at a common understanding on all issues and commitments relating to the relocation of the permanent headquarters of the Commission, to conclude an agreement concerning the headquarters and to agree upon a

suitable timetable and the necessary arrangements for the relocation of the permanent headquarters to Beirut in such a way as to ensure that the requirements for the proper functioning of the Commission are met;

(ii) To take all steps necessary to effect the transfer of the permanent headquarters of the Commission in accordance with the resolution (operative para. 5).

3. Should the Economic and Social Council adopt the resolution of ESCWA in which the Council would decide to recommend that the permanent headquarters of ESCWA be relocated to Beirut, consultations and negotiations will be undertaken with the Government of Lebanon on all issues relating to the relocation of the Commission's permanent headquarters, including the agreement concerning the headquarters and the timetable for the move to Beirut.

4. At the time that it was considering the question of its permanent headquarters, the Commission was provided with an indication of the costs involved in relocating those headquarters to Beirut. It was estimated that the costs of moving from Amman to Beirut would amount to $4.5 million and that annual staff costs would be approximately $1 million higher in Beirut. These costs are preliminary and would need to be refined on the basis of the outcome of the discussions with the Government of Lebanon.

5. Should the Economic and Social Council adopt the above-mentioned resolution, in which the Council would decide to recommend that the permanent headquarters of ESCWA be relocated to Beirut, the Secretary-General will, following consultations with the Government of Lebanon, revert to this question within the framework of existing budgetary procedures.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 19 (E/1994/39), annex IV.